

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 171132 ACTION USUN NEW YORK INFO LONDON
10 JULY 76.

QUOTE

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USUN FOR GOVERNOR SCRANTON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, SHUM, UG

SUBJECT: STATUS OF MRS. BLOCH

1. PRESIDENT HAS RECEIVED URGENT APPEAL FROM CHIEF RABBI
OF JERUSALEM TO INTERVENE ON BEHALF OF MRS. BLOCH WITH
UGANDAN AUTHORITIES.

2. WE WISH ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS TO BE RESPONSIVE TO
CHIEF RABBI'S APPEAL, BUT WE ARE HIGHLY DOUBTFUL THAT ANY
DIRECT APPROACH BY US TO UGANDANS WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL.
WE ARE INCLINED TO BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT WALDHEIM MAY BE
ABLE TO EXERT POSITIVE INFLUENCE ON UGANDAN REPRESENTATION
AT UN, PARTICULARLY ON FOREIGN MINISTER IF HE HAS ALREADY
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ARRIVED.

3. ACCORDINGLY, REQUEST YOU CONTACT SYG AND ASK THAT HE BRING CLEARLY TO ATTENTION OF UGANDAN DELEGATION SERIOUSLY ADVERSE IMPACT ON UGANDAN INTERNATIONAL MORAL POSITION AND IMAGE IF UGANDAN AUTHORITIES DO NOT RELEASE MRS. BLOCH FORTHWITH. WE UNDERSTAND, OF COURSE, THAT STRONG POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT MRS. BLOCH IS ALREADY DEAD, BUT ON CHANCE THAT SHE MAY STILL BE ALIVE WE BELIEVE UGANDANS SHOULD BE LEFT IN NO DOUBT REGARDING INTENSE INTERNATIONAL REACTION THAT WOULD RESULT FROM HER CONTINUED CONFINEMENT AND THREAT TO HER LIFE. SYG COULD POINT OUT THAT INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION OF UGANDA IS INVOLVED IN THIS CASE OF ELDERLY, DEFENSELESS WOMAN.

4. BEFORE MAKING APPROACH, YOU SHOULD INFORM BRITISH DELEGATION AND OBTAIN THEIR REACTION SO THAT WE DO NOT REPEAT NOT CROSS WIRES WITH ANY EFFORTS THEY MAY BE MAKING. ASSUMING REACTION FAVORABLE, REQUEST YOU MAKE APPROACH TO WALDHEIM SOONEST. KISSINGER UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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